

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 STR-04 COME-00 JUSE-00 LOC-01 ISO-00 EUR-12

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R 151653Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1155

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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USDEL MTN GENEVA

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PASS STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UK, OVIP (DENT, FREDERICK B.)

SUBJECT: VISIT TO LONDON OF AMBASSADOR DENT

REF: (A) LONDON 7282, (B) LONDON 1591, (C) STATE
27727, (D) STATE 38202, (E) STATE 60948, (F) LONDON
6117, (G) STATE 103641

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMED US THAT
TRADE SECRETARY SHORE WILL BE BRIEFED TO RAISE THE
FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WITH AMBASSADOR DENT DURING MEETING
ON MORNING OF MAY 27.

1) MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. SHORE WILL BE
INTERESTED IN A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF TIMING AND
SUBSTANCE.

2) COMMODITIES. SHORE WILL BE INTERESTED IN US REACTION
TO WILSON'S PROPOSALS AT KINGSTON AND IN THE EVOLUTION
OF US GOVERNMENT'S THINKING AFTER THE SECRETARY'S
SPEECH IN KANSAS CITY.

3) COUNTERVAILING DUTIES. THE BRITISH ARE DEEPLY CON-
CERNED BY THE COUNTERVAILING DUTY PETITION ON FLOAT

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GLASS. THEY DO NOT BELIEVE THAT REGIONAL AIDS SHOULD

BE REGARDED AS COUNTERAVAILABLE SUBSIDIES. AN ADDITIONAL COMPLAINT AFFECTING THE BRITISH STEEL CORPORATION HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN, BUT MAY BE RESUBMITTED ON A NEW BASIS INVOLVING THE REBATE OF VAT ON EXPORTS. SEE LONDON 1591, STATE 27727, AND STATE 28202.

4) BRITISH PUBLISHERS. SHORE IS LIKELY TO EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT A CIVIL ANTITRUST SUIT FILED IN 1974 CHALLENGING INTERNATIONAL MARKET ALLOCATIONS BY AMERICAN AND BRITISH PUBLISHERS. THE SUIT CHARGES 21 US PUBLISHERS, INCLUDING TWO US SUBSIDIARIES OF BRITISH FIRMS, WITH COMBINING AND CONSPIRING TO DIVIDE THE WORLD INTO EXCLUSIVE TERRITORIES. THE BRITISH COMPLAIN THAT THE ANTITRUST SUIT RAISES CONFLICT OF JURISDICTION QUESTIONS AND COULD BE CONTRARY TO US OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE UNIVERSAL COPYRIGHT CONVENTION TO WHICH BOTH COUNTRIES ARE PARTY. BRITISH PUBLISHERS BELIEVE LOSS OF ASSURED MARKET WILL SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE BRITISH PUBLISHING. WE UNDERSTAND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS SEEKING TO MEET BRITISH CONCERNS IN MATTER AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS HAVE MET WITH THE BRITISH PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION AND ARE CONSIDERING MODIFICATION OF DRAFT CONSENT DECREE TO WHICH BRITISH OBJECTED. DEPARTMENT OF TRADE INFORMS US NEW DRAFT OF CONSENT DECREE MAY BE CIRCULATED THIS WEEK. WE BELIEVE AMBASSADOR DENT SHOULD NOT COMMENT ON THIS MATTER IN DETAIL, BUT MIGHT NOTE IF IT IS RAISED THAT WE UNDERSTAND FURTHER JUSTICE DEPARTMENT-BPA DISCUSSION IS EXPECTED. SEE STATE 60948, LONDON 6117, STATE 103641.

5) GAS CYLINDERS. US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS WHICH REQUIRE THAT COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS HAVE TO BE MANUFACTURED TO CERTAIN SPECIFICATIONS AND TESTED IN THE US HAVE INTERFERED WITH SALE IN US OF UK GAS CYLINDERS (BOTH OF THE INDUSTRIAL TYPE AND THOSE THAT MIGHT BE USED IN THE AIR BAG PASSIVE RESTRAINT SYSTEM IN MOTOR VEHICLES). REVISED REGULATIONS WHICH WOULD VIRTUALLY ELIMINATE THE PROBLEM HAVE BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION SINCE 1971, BUT THEY HAVE NOT BEEN ADOPTED. THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE EEC HAVE RAISED THIS PROBLEM WITH US AUTHORITIES ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

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